

## **Two main goals for DCI currently are:**

1. To provide a safe place for all people who have or would like to have connections within the deaf and hard of hearing community and offer various services.
2. Raising funds and establishing a physical location for such people to gather. An ideal location will have offices, meeting rooms, an auditorium, library, kitchen, gymnasium, etc... Accessibility will be a priority.

## **Three main programs:**

### **Referral**

Examples:

- Individuals/Families
- Businesses
- Services/Organizations

### **Educational**

Examples:

- Classes
- Workshops
- Adult Basic Education
- Day Camps
- Leadership
- Sports

### **Internship**

Examples:

- Interpreting
- SLP
- Nutrition
- Social work
- Education

## **Various long-term goals:**

Establish a solid referral system to:

- Introduce new parents to experienced parents
- Refer individuals to D/HH friendly businesses
- Bring together families with similar educational/communication beliefs
- Connect individuals with appropriate services and organizations

Make available classes and workshops in areas such as:

- Adult Basic Education
- CPR
- Deaf Studies
- Finances
- Interpreting
- Legal rights
- Lifelong Learning Courses
- Literacy and Your Child
- Professional Development

Offer a recreation program for youth and adults which include:

- Day Camps
- Leagues
- Tournaments

Have available support services such as:

- Advocacy
- Financial Advising
- Legal Advising
- Mental Health Counseling
- Personal Coaching

Provide internship opportunities in fields such as:

- Architecture
- Art
- Athletic Coaching
- CART Services
- Cued Speech Interpreting
- Dance
- Deaf Education
- Oral Interpreting
- Psychology
- Sign Language Interpreting
- Sign Language Transliterating
- Social Work
- Special Education
- Speech-Language Pathology
- Writing

Establish a comprehensive facility with:

- Auditorium for various events
- Bookstore with products for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people
- Café
- Classrooms
- Gymnasium
- Interpreting Lab with resources to enhance interpreting skills
- Kitchen for classes and events
- Library to promote Deaf Studies and literacy
- Meeting rooms
- Museum
- Offices for businesses and organizations

## HISTORY:

On Friday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 members of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community gathered in Meridian to discuss the establishment of an organization that will evolve into a robust direct service portal for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals. The first objective is to secure funding and facilities for a gathering place in which these services can be provided.

After a great deal of brainstorming and discussion, community members agreed to use the term "Deaf" in reference to anyone with any type of hearing loss regardless of communication preferences. With that in mind, the organization was then named "Deaf Center of Idaho" or "DCI."

DCI has officially become a non-profit corporation and has held several events, including fund raisers. The officers of DCI are aggressively looking for funding and diligently working to establish the foundation on which DCI will flourish for many years to come.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why a new and independent organization?

DCI serves all deaf or hard of hearing individuals, family members, interpreters, organizations, students, educators, and other stakeholders. DCI will also establish a physical facility for the benefit of such community members.

### Why a Non-Profit Organization?

DCI wishes to be free of certain legal and financial limitations and desires to depend on the generosity of contributors, donations, and grants.

### How can I become involved?

Send an email of interest to [DeafCenterIdaho@yahoo.com](mailto:DeafCenterIdaho@yahoo.com)

### How can I donate money to DCI?

Contributions to Deaf Center of Idaho can be deposited at any US Bank.

### Are donations tax-deductible?

Yes. All donations large or small are tax-deductible. DCI is currently seeking donations to help secure a facility and to implement programs and services.

### For more information:

<http://www.venche.clearwire.net/ASLPlace/deafcenteridaho@yahoo.com>

DCI is open to all people regardless of age, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, veterans' status, hearing status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or communication preferences and abilities.

# DEAF CENTER OF IDAHO

A COMMUNITY FOR  
ALL OF US.

2007

